

of the happy grunting and “uh uh” sounds she had been making throughout the visit, her verbalizations at these goodbyes changed to a very low and different sound that appeared to come from deep in her throat and was almost like a growl. She first made the sound when her sister said goodbye and then, amazingly to me, she made exactly the same sound when her mother said goodbye to her. It seemed Terri was visibly upset that they were leaving. She almost appeared to be trying to cling to them, although this impression came only from her changed facial expression and sounds, since her hands cannot move. It appeared like she did not want to be alone and knew they were leaving. It was definitely apparent in the short time I was there that her emotions changed—it was apparent when she was happy and enjoying herself, when she was amused, when she was resting from her exertion to communicate, and when she was sad at her guests leaving. It was readily apparent and surprising that her mood changed so often in a short 45-minute visit.

I was pleasantly surprised to observe Terri's purposeful and varied behaviors with the various members of her family and with Attorney Gibbs and myself. I never imagined Terri would be so active, curious, and purposeful. She watched people intently, obviously was attempting to communicate with each one in various ways and with various facial expressions and sounds. She was definitely not in a coma, not even close. This visit certainly shed more light for me on why the Schindlers are fighting so hard to protect her, to get her medical care and rehabilitative assistance, and to spend all they have to protect her life.

I realize that Terri has good days and bad days. There are obviously days when she does not interact with her family, as they had previously told us. There are also apparently days when Terri is even more interactive and responsive to them than she was on the day I visited. Since this visit I am more convinced than ever that the Schindlers are not just parents who refuse to let go of their daughter. There really is a lot going on with their daughter and potentially, it seemed obvious to me, Terri could improve even more with appropriate care and 24 hour a day love that can only come from a dedicated family. As I watched her, my foremost thought was that on the next day, Christmas, Terri should not have been confined to her small room in a hospice center, nice as that room was, but that she should have been gathered around the Christmas dinner table enjoying the holiday with her family.

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, how appropriate as we stand and acknowledge International Women's Week and realize that maybe 20 years or 30 years ago there would not be a Lifetime television channel that would emphasize the issues to educate not only Americans but also the world. This is Stop Violence Against Women Week, and I stand to acknowledge the great strides women in Afghanistan and Iraq have made, as cochair of the Afghanistan Caucus; and I acknowledge

violence still peppers and perpetrates itself around the Nation.

In my State of Texas, nearly 2 million Texans, almost 13 percent of the State population, have been sexually assaulted. In Texas, every 2 minutes someone is sexually assaulted, and two women are killed each week by their intimate partner. It is time to stop the violence.

This week I will also emphasize my bill, Good Time Release Act of 2005, that speaks to the early release of prisoners. And I want to address the treatment of women in our Nation's prisons, women who have not perpetrated violent acts. I also stand and acknowledge violence against women in Sudan, women who are raped, brutalized, and torn away from their children. We must stand up to this kind of violence. It is not only in America; it is around the world.

Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, said, “Justice is not cheap. Justice is not quick. It is not ever finally achieved.”

Mr. Speaker, we must fight for the liberation of women around the world.

I would like to thank Lifetime Television and their commitment to “Stop Violence Against Women.” Their generous support has made the celebration of International Women's Day possible.

Yesterday was International Women's Day, and it was brought to my attention that in light of all these celebrations of how far women have come over the decades, it would be naïve for us to stand here and believe that we have eradicated gender based violence. Statistics keep coming in, showing that the problem is widespread for both sexual and domestic violence, and victims fear reporting the crimes to proper authorities.

In my state of Texas, nearly 2 million adult Texans, almost 13 percent of the state population, have been sexually assaulted. In Texas, every two minutes, someone is sexually assaulted and two women are killed each week by their intimate partner.

Approximately 31 percent of sexual assault victims reported that a family member also has been sexually assaulted. We must raise awareness about how we as a society can take care of the victims of such crimes. An estimate of 82 percent of rapes and sexual assaults go unreported because of shame, fear, hurt and anger. Nearly 80 percent of those raped know the person who raped them.

Family and friends not only help their loved one deal with the effects of an assault, and must manage their own feelings about the victimization of someone they care about. The impact of such a traumatic experience is severe. Thirty percent of rape victims contemplate suicide, and 13 percent attempt to take their own life.

I have worked with formidable organizations such as Texans Against Sexual Assault, who work to bring voices to women who have been victims of sexual crimes, and help them along an emotional recovery. Also, the Texas Council on Family Violence, which has connected more than 15,000 Texas victims of domestic violence with emergency shelter and protection.

I am proud to be here, and grateful to these organizations and their hard work. But this does not start here. Sexual assault and violence affects all racial and ethnic groups. These victims are our selves, our families, neighbors and coworkers. Together we must take a stand and work together for women's rights. We must work on building a brighter future, and make gender based violence a thing of the past. One day or week or month is not enough to do it all, but it's a beginning. Marian Wright Edelman, the founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund said, “Justice is not cheap. Justice is not quick. It is not ever finally achieved.”

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I read from a story today in The Washington Post, page A8, “Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican, South Carolina, who has spent weeks attempting to recruit Democratic support for a plan to restructure Social Security, said yesterday that Republicans ‘made a strategic mistake’ by initially focusing on a proposal to create individual investment accounts,” and, as he says, “We've now got this huge fight over a sideshow. It's always been a sideshow, but we sold it as the main event.”

What he is talking about is that, as the President himself has admitted, the privatization of Social Security is and has nothing to do with fixing potential future financing problems in Social Security. It is a battle, in fact, if it was won under the President's terms, that would divert income from Social Security and, in fact, accelerate its financial problems from 40 years in the future to a mere 10 or 20 years in the future.

Senator GRAHAM, Republican from South Carolina, has come to the conclusion that, as many of us have been saying on this side of the aisle, we should fix Social Security first, then engage in a debate over how best to encourage or assist Americans in having more private resources through IRAs, 401(k)s or other sorts of devices for their retirement.

The basic vision of the founders of Social Security still holds: President Roosevelt said that he wanted to have a program that was not a dole; that had its own source of funding that would be guaranteed, and it would be earned. Earned. And that is what Social Security is, an earned guaranteed benefit that not only covers people in